


Mel
Hauptman/R2/USEPA/US
11/30/2005 02:40 PM

To Dilshad Perera/R2/USEPA/US@EPA
cc Dennis Munhall/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Michael
Mintzer/R2/USEPA/US@EPA
bcc
Subject Re: Contaminated Soil at the Westwood Chemical Corp. Site


I agree with Dilshad on this.

Dilshad Perera/R2/USEPA/US

Dilshad
Perera/R2/USEPA/US
11/30/2005 02:27 PM

To Mel Hauptman/R2/USEPA/US@EPA, Dennis
Munhall/R2/USEPA/US@EPA
cc Michael Mintzer/R2/USEPA/US@EPA
Subject Contaminated Soil at the Westwood Chemical Corp. Site

Hi Mel:

As per our conversation a few minutes ago here is the information I discussed with Dave Charters:

I just spoke to Dave Charters with EPA's Environmental Response Team; he is the one I solicited an Ecological Assessment from. As it turns out, he was at his Edison office today. He and I viewed the data on the webpage.

His opinion is as follows:

The low pH and high chlorides in the non-vegetative areas is the reason for lack of vegetation. Dave said that the aluminum toxicity to plant life increases as the pH is lowered. To illustrate this he clicked on sample points in the non-vegetative and adjacent vegetative areas and pointed to the pH and chloride results. For the most part the pH in the non-vegetative areas was in the 4s, the chlorides in the thousands (mg/kg) while in the vegetative areas, the pH was in the 6-7 range and chlorides in the low hundreds.

The fix he is tentatively proposing is to buffer the soil by tilling lime in the top 6 inches or so to reach a pH of near 7. By doing so, the toxicity of the aluminum is lowered.

He added that aluminum chlorohydrate is an anti microbial agent and as such kills off the microbes in the soil and eliminates the available carbon. He said the lime tilling can be done in the winter months. I should have plenty of money left if this is all there is to do.

He is going to forward the data to a biologist.

If the final determination stands as discussed with Dave I'm wholly prepared to follow the recommendations and would like the concurrence from the pre-remedial program that in doing so; the removal action will be not be inconsistent with the remedial program and that at the conclusion, EPA will no longer have outstanding issues at the Westwood Chemical Corporation site.

